

Growth trends varied considerably across the study area. In the northwestern corner of the study area, in an urban part of Winston-Salem, population actually declined from 1990 to 2000. Other areas, such as the southeastern and northeastern corners of the study area, near Thomasville and Kernersville, respectively, had growth rates of nearly 40 percent, much faster than the area as a whole.

TABLE 3-1: POPULATION GROWTH, 1990-2000

Area	Population		Growth	
	1990	2000	#	%
Study Area	47,540	55,722	8,182	17.2%
Davidson County	126,677	147,246	20,569	16.2%
Forsyth County	265,878	306,067	40,189	15.1%
Winston-Salem	143,485	185,776	42,291	29.5%
North Carolina	6,628,637	8,049,313	1,420,676	21.4%

Source: US Census 1990, 2000.

3.1.1.2 Ethnicity and Race

The racial composition of the project area and surrounding communities was examined in order to provide insight into the presence or absence of traditionally-underserved populations (see Table 3-2). According to the 2000 Census, minority residents make up approximately 20 percent of the study area population. This is somewhat lower than for North Carolina as a whole, although the study area has a slightly higher percentage of Hispanic residents (6.4 percent) than the State (4.7 percent). Davidson County's racial and ethnic makeup is somewhat more homogenous than the study area, with a higher percentage of white residents and smaller percentages of nonwhite and Hispanic residents. Forsyth County and Winston-Salem have more diverse populations than the study area, with smaller percentages of white residents and higher percentages of nonwhite and Hispanic residents. Within the study area, the highest percentages of nonwhite and Hispanic residents are found in its northwestern corner, near I-40/US 311 in Winston-Salem (Census Tracts 19.01 and 34.01).